

# FWS Exhibition Violations & Reprimands - Updated March 2020

The Florida Watercolor Society produces two member exhibitions per year. We work very hard to ensure that all entrants wishing to participate have the same chance. In place is a set of rules and guidelines that applies to every artist and every entry. Each year, there are those who submit work that is ineligible for any number of reasons. Most of the time they just did not read the rules, but sometimes they intentionally misrepresent themselves or their work and hope we don't find out. This causes issues which the Board must then deal with.

For the last five years since we have worked with CaFE for Exhibition entry, we have been able to vet each artist and each artwork for eligibility. By doing so, we have been able to get in front of some problems before they happen. This is a painstaking, time-consuming job that is done to catch ineligible work before it goes to the judge. Once the judge makes his or her selections and ineligible work is uncovered after-the-fact, that artist has taken away a spot from another artist. We try very hard to avoid this issue, but once in a while something gets by us and needs to be dealt with.

Selected work is examined at take-in by a Compliance Committee consisting of one Past President and two other Signature Members. Often, infractions are discovered during this examination and the Board must deal with each issue on a case-by-case basis.

## So what's eligible? Here is a partial list that may help...

### Eligible Media (what you use to create the image)

Pencil lines only to draw out painting  
Watercolor - transparent to opaque  
Gouache  
Acrylic  
Watercolor Pencil  
Watercolor Crayon  
Watercolor Inks  
Acrylic inks  
Alcohol inks  
Gesso  
Wax resist for batik (wax removed)  
Varnish to seal unglazed work

### Ineligible Media (not limited to...)

Heavy graphite pencil  
Water-soluble oil paint  
Oil pastels or crayons  
Chalk pastels  
Modeling paste  
Acrylic texturing mediums  
Foil  
Glitter  
String  
Newspaper, magazine images  
Wax-based crayons  
Wax-based colored pencils

### Eligible Substrates (what you paint on)

Watercolor paper, any brand  
Mounted watercolor paper  
Watercolor board; illustration board  
Watercolor canvas, flat and unstretched  
Aquaboard, Clayboard & other flat or cradled panels  
Panels coated with watercolor ground or gesso  
Cradled boards, painted directly or mounted to, 1.5" - 2"  
White tissue paper (for collage only)  
White rice paper  
White handmade paper

### Ineligible Substrates (not limited to...)

Drawing paper  
Typing paper, copy paper  
Cardboard  
Stretched canvas  
Paper embedded with seeds  
Sculpted or textured paper  
Textured boards

### Eligible Presentation

Traditionally framed under Plexiglas (acrylic)  
White top mat  
Floated on white with no top mat  
Floated on a color with a white top mat  
One-quarter inch colored inner or floater mat  
Varnished cradled board  
Varnished painting on paper (mounted or framed)  
Varnished painting on flat canvas (mounted or framed)  
Floater frame for flat varnished panels  
See current Prospectus for complete list

### Ineligible Presentation (not limited to...)

Traditionally framed under glass  
Matted work without acrylic  
Linen liners, lip liners  
Sawtooth hangers  
Gaping frame corners  
Blemished, marred, or discolored mats  
Colored, painted, or ornate frames  
Colored top mat  
Scratched, marred, or damaged frames

Following is a chart of infractions and reprimands, depending on the severity of the infraction. If you have any questions about whether an entry is eligible or not, please email [fws.show.entry@gmail.com](mailto:fws.show.entry@gmail.com) **before entering** and be specific about the entry in question.

Artist/Artwork Violations	Reprimands		
	Before Judging	At Take-In	After Hanging
Ineligible materials, substrates, or collage	Disqualified	Disqualified, replaced by an Alternate, possible Reprimand	Disqualified, work removed from show, letter of Reprimand, 2-year Suspension, Recind Award
Ineligible frames, mats, presentation issues <i>(work dislodged from mat, etc.)</i>	N/A	Chance to make it right by the end of take-in at the artist's expense or replaced by an Alternate	Repair damage/issue or work removed from the show
Expired creation date <i>(work older than stated in the Prospectus)</i>	Disqualified	Disqualified, replaced by an Alternate, possible Reprimand	Disqualified, work removed from show, letter of Reprimand, 2-year Suspension, Recind Award
Intentional altering of creation date	Artist & all work entered are disqualified; possible reprimand	Disqualified, replaced by an Alternate, Letter of Reprimand, possible suspension	Disqualified, work removed from show, letter of Reprimand, 2-year Suspension, Recind Award
Size too large or small; inappropriate subject matter; violation of rules set by venue	Disqualified	Disqualified, replaced by an Alternate, possible Reprimand	Work with such issues would not be hung
Copyright infraction; all source materials are not original to the artist <i>(vintage family photos excluded)</i>	Artist & all work entered are disqualified; possible reprimand	Disqualified, work replaced by Alternate, letter of Reprimand, 2-year Suspension	Disqualified, work removed from show, letter of Reprimand, 2-year Suspension, Recind Award
Alteration of work between selection and take-in; delivery of wrong painting	N/A	Disqualified, replaced by an Alternate, possible Reprimand	Work with such issues would not be hung
Failure to deliver a selected painting to take-in	N/A	Disqualified, replaced by an Alternate, possible Reprimand	N/A
Backing out of the Traveling Show <i>(If a TS painting sells at one of the venues, it will be removed from the TS to avoid the possibility of damage in transit)</i>	N/A	Possible Reprimand	N/A

- There are no refunds of entry fees, no matter the reason.
- Ineligible paintings may NOT be exchanged for other work.
- Reprimands are given at the discretion of the Board of Directors whose decisions are final.
- Reprimands become more severe for the same violation if the chance of being in the show is taken away from another artist, whether or not an Alternate steps in.
- For some infractions, such as copyright infringement or intentional deceit, the artist and all entries for that show are disqualified, and may incur reprimands even though the judge will never see the work.
- There are no framing restrictions for Online Show work, whether or not the work is invited to show at the FWS Convention.